

In Support of HB 6355.

As a Connecticut resident and wife of an avid hunter, I write on our behalf to support this bill. Guns MUST be kept out of the hands of dangerous people. Many tragedies could have been prevented if family members and others had been given the tools to remove guns from the people who shouldn't have them.

“In 1999, following the Connecticut Lottery shooting, we became the first state in the nation to pass an Extreme Risk law, sometimes referred to as a Red Flag law, allowing law enforcement to temporarily remove firearms from individuals deemed to be an imminent risk to themselves or others. Since then, 18 other states and Washington D.C. have implemented versions of the law, finding ways to make this lifesaving legislation more effective and accessible. The time has come for Connecticut to revisit our law, to ensure that it is in line with the strongest in the nation. Extreme Risk laws are critically important to keeping our families, friends, and communities safe. A study in Connecticut found that one suicide was averted for approximately every 11 times a gun was temporarily turned over to law enforcement under the law; the Extreme Risk law has contributed to reducing our state's overall suicide rate by 14%.”

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Dinah Wells, Guilford, CT